

ALDRIDGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of
Health and Sanitary Condition

of the
Aldridge Urban District

For the Year ending 31st December, 1952.

by

V. E. MILNE,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

and

U. BOOCOCK,
M.S.I.A.,

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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Aldridge Road, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

V. E. MILNE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Part-Time Officer.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

U. BOOCOCK, M.S.I.A.,

Whole-Time Officer.

K. B. WILLIAMS, C.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

To the Aldridge Urban District Council

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting my Twenty-Eighth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Aldridge Urban District for the year ending December 31st, 1952, in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 2/53 of the 22nd January, 1953.

Area.

The area of the District is 9,284 acres.

Population.

The estimated resident population at mid-summer, 1952, is 29,360 (an increase of 193 from the previous year). This gives a population of 3.16 per acre.

Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses, according to rate books, at 31/12/52 was 8,239.

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value was £139,639 at 31/12/52, and the sum represented by a 1d. Rate was £553 at 19/2/53.

Social Conditions.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are:—Brick-making, mining and agriculture, the district also being largely residential.

Vital Statistics.

These statistics relate to the nett births and deaths, after correction for inward and outward transfers, as furnished by the Registrar-General:—

Live Births—

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Legitimate	199	181	380
Illegitimate	5	3	8
	<hr/> 204	<hr/> 184	<hr/> 388

Of these 388 births, 250 were registered locally, the remaining 138 were transferred into the district from out-

side areas. Approximately 64 per cent. of the births were, therefore, registered locally, rather more than the percentage last year (viz. : 60%).

The unadjusted Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population is 13.18. The Area Comparability Factor (viz., 0.88), however, reduces the Live Birth Rate from 13.18 to 11.59. It appears that for the future this A.C. Factor will be employed in calculating the Birth Rate just as an A.C. Factor has been used for many years in the past in calculating the Death Rate.

The Live Birth Rate for the whole of England and Wales was 15.3.

Illegitimate Birth Rate. This rate as calculated above is 0.27.

Still Birth Rate. 9 Still Births (males 3, females 6) were registered, and the rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births is 22.67, or 0.30 per 1,000 of the population. The Still Birth Rate for the whole of England and Wales is 0.35.

For the year 1951 the adjusted Live Birth Rate was 11.85 and the Still Birth Rate was 0.34.

Death Rate.—There were 223 deaths (males 110, females 113), and the Corrected Death Rate is 9.79 per 1,000 of the population. The A.C.F. (Area Comparability Factor) for the district is 1.29. The Death Rate for the whole of England and Wales is 11.3, and for 148 smaller towns (resident populations of 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census) it is 11.2.

The A.C.F.'s mentioned above, viz. : 0.88 and 1.29 for Births and Deaths, respectively, are the same as for the previous year.

For the year 1952 the crude birth and death rates were 13.18 and 7.59. These rates, when multiplied by the A.C.F.'s, become the standardised rates for the district, that is, the rates which would have occurred if the age and sex distribution in the district had corresponded to those of the Country as a whole.

Shortly :

The crude death rate = $7.59 \times 1.29 = 9.79$ Standardised death rate.

The crude birth rate = $13.18 \times 0.88 = 11.59$ Standardised birth rate.

Eighty deaths were transferred into the District and 36 were transferred out.

Infantile Death Rate. (Under one year of age). All infants per 1,000 live births : 33.5.

The infantile death rate (all infants) for the whole of England and Wales is 27.6 per 1,000 Live Births.

The infantile death rate (all infants) for the District was 25.44 for 1951.

No Illegitimate Infant died under 1 year of age.

No death resulted from Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion.

Cancer, etc. 41 deaths resulted from Cancer. No death from Measles and Whooping Cough.

No death was due to Diphtheria, and 9 resulted from Pneumonia.

Laboratory Facilities. The Public Health Laboratory Service (Stafford) supplies excellent facilities for the examination of swabs, specimens of sputa, blood, etc.

During the year reports on 3 swabs from throats, etc., and on 33 specimens of blood, fæces, etc., were received. 57 specimens of sputa were examined for tubercle bacilli (9 positive and 48 negative).

General Provisions of Health Services.

The following services are provided by the Staffordshire County Council, as the Local Health Authority :—

Ambulance Service.	Ante-Natal Clinics.
Home Help Service.	Infant Welfare Centres.
Diphtheria Immunisation (Private Practitioners, and at Infant Welfare Centres and School Clinics).	

Laboratory Services. The Public Health Laboratory Services, Martin Street, Stafford (Tel. : Stafford 377). Director, Lt.-Col. R. N. Phease (Directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health).

Chemical Analysis. County Analyst, A. Houlbrooke, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C., Chemical Laboratory, County Buildings, Stafford (Tel. : Stafford 578).

Hospitals. Those chiefly used are:—The General, The Manor and St. John's Hospitals, Walsall, The Birmingham and Wolverhampton Hospitals, and the Cannock and Lichfield Hospitals. Admissions are usually arranged by General Practitioners.

Maternity Accommodation. Hospitalization, on medical grounds, is arranged by the patient's Doctor, and for unsuitable home conditions, after investigation by the Health Visitor, by the Hospital Management Committee of the area in which the applicant resides.

Small Pox. Treatment and hospitalization are arranged for through the Regional Hospital Board.

Venereal Disease. Clinics are held at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, for diagnostic, consultative and curative purposes.

Tuberculosis. Treatment is now arranged for through the Regional Hospital Board.

Water.

The Aldridge Urban District is within the statutory area of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, and Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., Chief Engineer, has kindly let me have the following information for the year 1952 :—

1. The supply to the Urban District of Aldridge is derived from one pumping station (Bourne Vale P.S.) within and from six pumping stations outside the boundaries of the Authority.

Regular and frequent samples are examined from the pumping stations both bacteriologically and chemically. Bacteriological samples of the water are also examined prior to treatment where possible.

During 1952, 43 samples from Bourne Vale P.S. were examined, and all were free from coliform bacteria.

153 samples were examined from the reservoirs at Barr Beacon, 4 of which contained coliform bacteria, one confirming faecal Bact.coli, and the other 3 aërogenes bacteria.

Of the 19 samples examined from the Waterman's house, Aldridge, one confirmed Bact.-coli of the non-faecal type, one intermediate and 3 aërogenes bacteria. The samples were also examined chemically, and the average results for 1952 were :—

pH	7.5			
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	135	parts	per	million
Chlorides (Cl)	24.2	"	"	"
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	Trace	"	"	"
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N) .....	.017	"	"	"
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	6.6	"	"	"
Oxygen absorbed (3 hr at 27°C) .....	.23	"	"	"
Temporary Hardness	127	"	"	"
Permanent Hardness	87	"	"	"
Total Hardness	214	"	"	"
Total Solids	350	"	"	"
Iron (Fe) .....	.03	"	"	"
Manganese (Mn)	Nil	"	"	"
Calcium (Ca)	80.0	"	"	"
Magnesium (Mg)	4.0	"	"	"
Sulphate (SO ₄)	79.3	"	"	"
Zinc (Zn)	Nil	"	"	"
Poisonous Metals (Cu and Pb)	Nil	"	"	"
Free Cl.	Nil	"	"	"

2. The waters are not liable to plumbo solvency. 12 samples examined from the Waterman's house were all free from lead.

3. Chlorination is practised at most of the pumping stations, largely as a precautionary measure.

In cases of emergency, such as burst mains, etc., emergency chlorination is introduced. New mains are not brought into use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory. Special Staff and apparatus are available for this purpose.

4. The number of houses with a piped water supply in the Urban District of Aldridge at 31st December, 1952, was 7,905.

This information satisfies me that the quality and quantity of the water supply throughout the District has been most satisfactory.

There are still a few isolated wells in the less thickly populated parts of the district.

Public Cleansing.

This service has continued to be economically and efficiently conducted under the control of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Schools.

It was not considered necessary to close any School on account of an outbreak of infectious disease.

The Schools are under the control of the County Education Authority.

Housing.

The number of houses erected during the year 1952 :—	
Erected by Local Authority.	Otherwise.
1,000	500
2,000	1,000
3,000	1,500
4,000	2,000
5,000	2,500
6,000	3,000
7,000	3,500
8,000	4,000
9,000	4,500
10,000	5,000
11,000	5,500
12,000	6,000
13,000	6,500
14,000	7,000
15,000	7,500
16,000	8,000
17,000	8,500
18,000	9,000
19,000	9,500
20,000	10,000
21,000	10,500
22,000	11,000
23,000	11,500
24,000	12,000
25,000	12,500
26,000	13,000
27,000	13,500
28,000	14,000
29,000	14,500
30,000	15,000
31,000	15,500
32,000	16,000
33,000	16,500
34,000	17,000
35,000	17,500
36,000	18,000
37,000	18,500
38,000	19,000
39,000	19,500
40,000	20,000
41,000	20,500
42,000	21,000
43,000	21,500
44,000	22,000
45,000	22,500
46,000	23,000
47,000	23,500
48,000	24,000
49,000	24,500
50,000	25,000
51,000	25,500
52,000	26,000
53,000	26,500
54,000	27,000
55,000	27,500
56,000	28,000
57,000	28,500
58,000	29,000
59,000	29,500
60,000	30,000
61,000	30,500
62,000	31,000
63,000	31,500
64,000	32,000
65,000	32,500
66,000	33,000
67,000	33,500
68,000	34,000
69,000	34,500
70,000	35,000
71,000	35,500
72,000	36,000
73,000	36,500
74,000	37,000
75,000	37,500
76,000	38,000
77,000	38,500
78,000	39,000
79,000	39,500
80,000	40,000
81,000	40,500
82,000	41,000
83,000	41,500
84,000	42,000
85,000	42,500
86,000	43,000
87,000	43,500
88,000	44,000
89,000	44,500
90,000	45,000
91,000	45,500
92,000	46,000
93,000	46,500
94,000	47,000
95,000	47,500
96,000	48,000
97,000	48,500
98,000	49,000
99,000	49,500
100,000	50,000

Erected by Local Authority.		Otherwise.	
Erected during 1952.	In course of erection at end of 1952.	Erected during 1952.	In course of erection at end of 1952.
152	242	113	312

TOTALS: Erected during 1952	265
In course of erection at end of 1952	554

Full particulars regarding inspections made, remedying of defects, action taken under Statutory Powers, overcrowding under the Housing Act, 1936, etc., will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Sampling of Milk and Foods.

The County Sampling Officer has taken repeated samples of milk and foods, and these are examined and reported upon by the County Bacteriologist and Analyst. (See Sanitary Inspector's Report).

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Hospital Accommodation.

The arrangements for admissions of Infectious cases are usually made by the General Practitioner in attendance.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This service is conducted by the County Authority, and the children are immunised by the County Medical Staff and General Practitioners.

Assuming the age groups of the population have not materially altered, the estimated age groups at June 30th, 1952 (when the estimated total population was 29,360) are as follows :—

0—4 Age Group	2,893
5—14 Age Group	5,081

For the previous year these figures were 2,875 and 5,048.

The numbers of children *immunised* for the first time during the year 1952 are :—

Under 5 years of age	274
5—14 years of age	309
Total	<hr/> 583

The number of children re-immunised during the year 1952 is :—

All ages	1,374
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The estimated percentages of immunised children in the Aldridge Urban District at 31/12/52 are as follows :—

Under 5 years of age	33.8%
5—14 years of age	87.0%
All children under 15 years of age ...	67.7%

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1952.**

Disease.	Total Cases notified after correction.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	—	—
Small-Pox	—	—
Scarlet Fever	69	—
Enteric Fever, including Para- typhoid	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—
Pneumonia	16	9
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—
Dysentery	3	—
Measles	167	—
Whooping Cough	80	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	4	—
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) . . .	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—
Food Poisoning	2	—

Analysis of the Infectious Cases (After Correction) in Age Groups and in Wards is given below :—

AGE GROUP.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.
Under 1 year	—	—	8	7
1—2 years	6	—	20	20
3—4 years	9	—	38	26
5—9 years	37	—	87	25
10—14 years	15	—	6	2
15—24 years	2	—	6	—
25 and over	—	—	2	—
WARD.				
Aldridge	27	—	24	18
Great Barr	4	—	7	15
Pheasey	36	—	72	30
Pelsall	—	—	44	10
Rushall	—	—	6	3
Streetly	2	—	14	4
TOTALS	69	Nil	167	80
Cases notified from Insti- tutions and included in the above figures	1	—	—	1

AGE GROUP.

	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Pyrexia. Puerperal	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Dysentery.	Typhoid & Para- Typhoid Fever.	Encephalitis.	Infantile Paralysis.	Food Poisoning.
0—4 years ..	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ..	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—
15—44 years ..	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
45—64 years ..	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
WARD.										
Aldridge	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Barr	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—
Pelsall	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pheasey	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Rushall	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Streetly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	16	3	1	—	—	3	—	—	4	2
Cases notified from Institu- tions and in- cluded in the above figures ..	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—

It will be seen NO case of Puerperal Pyrexia or Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified.

The following table shows the number of certain Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1952, and the attack rates per 1,000 of the population :—

	Cases.	Rate.
Smallpox	—	—
Typhoid	—	—
Para-Typhoid	—	—
Scarlet Fever	69	2.35
Whooping Cough	80	2.72
Diphtheria	—	—
Erysipelas	3	0.10
Pneumonia	16	0.54
Peurperal Pyrexia	—	—
Polio-Myelitis	4	0.13
Measles	167	5.68

Zymotic Death Rate.

No death resulted from Zymotic Diseases.

Small Pox—Suspected Case and Contact.

A suspected case was visited and investigated.

Fortunately, it was later diagnosed as Chicken Pox.

At the request of an Army Adjutant, I visited a Small Pox contact on 31/3/52, and had no difficulty in persuading the young man to be re-vaccinated. Fortunately, he did not develop the disease and returned to his unit soon afterwards.

Tuberculosis.

Thirty-Eight cases of Tuberculosis (see Table below) were entered on the Register, 32 Pulmonary, and 6 Non-Pulmonary.

Twelve cases occurred in Aldridge, 10 in Rushall, 7 in Pelsall, 3 in Pheasey, 5 in Streetly, and 1 case in Great Barr.

Six of these 38 cases were notified from Institutions and 11 cases were brought to my notice otherwise than by formal notification on Form “A,” as follows :—

Inward Transfers	4
Form 1 from Institutions	4
First notification after death	3
	—
	11
	—

The total number of cases on the Register at the end of 1952 was 135, made up as follows :—

MALES.		FEMALES.	
Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
68	7	48	12

At the end of 1951 the number on the Register was 145. The notification of Tuberculosis during the year was good. No action was necessary on account of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

Review of Tuberculosis Register.

A review of all cases on the Tuberculosis Register was carried out during the year, as the result of which, 31 cases were erased.

Of these 31 cases—one was found to have died, 15 were found to have “recovered,” and the remaining 15 were found to have left the District.

I wish to thank Dr. Jamison, Area Medical Officer, for his co-operation in allowing the Health Visitors to assist in this review—which involved considerable time in visiting many homes. The Health Visitors’ efforts and the accurate information supplied are also much appreciated.

Six deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were registered and no death from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis was registered, giving Death Rates per 1,000 of the population of 0.20 and 0.00, respectively.

The ages at death, divided into sexes, are shown on the following Table :—

Age. Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary. Male.	Non-Pulmonary. Female.	Pulmonary. Male.	Non-Pulmonary. Female.	Pulmonary. Male.	Non-Pulmonary. Female.	Pulmonary. Male.	Non-Pulmonary. Female.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	2	2	—	2	1	1	—	—
35—45	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and up	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	21	11	1	5	5	1	—	—

The above Table shows the cases of Tuberculosis entered in the Register and deaths from this disease, classified according to age and sex during the year 1952.

It has not been found necessary to compulsorily remove any case of infectious disease to hospital.

Food Poisoning.

Two notifications of food poisoning were received in September, 1952—from Pheasey—and all the circumstances were immediately investigated.

The persons were suffering from rather severe Gastro-Intestinal upset.

Cream chocolate eclairs were suspected, but no samples could be obtained for laboratory examination.

The suspected eclairs were consumed in London, and the Medical Officer of Health for the district concerned was fully informed. The probable origin of infection or contamination of the suspected food, was not ascertained.

Mortuary.

The Mortuary at Rushall continues to be regularly used by the medical profession and the police. It is of great convenience to both.

The lighting, hot water supply, and gas heating—used only during very cold weather—have recently been greatly improved. Rubber mats to cover the concrete floor around the post-mortem table have also recently been supplied.

Privies.

The number of privies remaining throughout the district is 18; these are in situations where a public sewer is not available.

Vaccination.

Action was taken under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917 (See Small Pox).

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47).

1. An aged couple (ages 71 and 78) in Great Barr have been periodically visited, and it was not considered necessary to seek an order of the Court for their removal to an Institution.

2. An aged man in Pelsall was repeatedly removed for thorough cleansing and hair-cut, etc., but this was of no avail, as his living conditions continued to be quite unsatisfactory. He was eventually removed by an order of the Court to a suitable Institution. Three months later, as I was satisfied he was happy in his new surroundings, it was unnecessary to seek the renewal of the Court Order.

General Remarks.

The health of the population during 1952 was good.

It is rather disconcerting, however, to find the adjusted Live Birth Rate continues to decline. In 1949, 1950 and 1951, the Rates were 16.66, 14.10 and 11.85, respectively, and now for 1952 it was still lower at 11.59.

No reliable explanation can be suggested for this steady decline.

The adjusted Death Rate, 9.79, is the lowest recorded, and compares with 9.95, 11.59 and 10.38 for the years 1949, 1950, and 1951, respectively. The Death Rate for all England and Wales was 11.3 for 1952.

Again, for the fifth consecutive year, no Maternal Death resulted from pregnancy, child-birth or abortion. This is most gratifying.

Six deaths from Tuberculosis occurred—there were twelve deaths in 1951.

The number of tuberculous persons re-housed during 1952 was 12. The previous year the number re-housed was 7.

The close co-operation of the Housing Committee in this matter, by improving the living and hygienic conditions of these unfortunate sufferers, is essential for the control of this infectious disease.

Sixteen cases of overcrowding have been re-housed directly during 1952 by the Housing Department.

Staff.—The work of the Department continues to be smoothly and efficiently carried out. All members of the Staff, from the Chief Sanitary Inspector downwards, have regularly, willingly and conscientiously carried out their duties. Mr. Boocock's thorough knowledge of the many problems to be dealt with and the sanitary requirements of the District is of the highest value.

The present accommodation—especially as there have recently been additions to the Staff—is quite inadequate, but it is hoped this unsatisfactory feature will soon be rectified.

I again desire to thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, and also all fellow Officers and Council Staff for the co-operation, consideration and courtesy received in the course of my duties during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

V. E. MILNE,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1952. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Births				
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population			
Live Births	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6
Still births	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34
	22.6(a)	24.6(a)	23.0(a)	19.2(a)

Deaths

All Causes	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox	0.00	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58

Notifications (Corrected)

Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Meningococcal infection ..	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet fever	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56
Whooping cough	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23
Pneumonia	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)				
Paralytic	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Non-paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Food poisoning	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18
Puerperal pyrexia	17.87(a)	23.94(a)	10.22(a)	30.77(a)

Deaths

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

All causes under 1 year of age	27.6(b)	31.2	25.8	23.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

Intermediate List No. and cause		Number of Deaths	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
A115	Sepsis of pregnancy, child- birth and the puer- perium	61	0.09	—
A116	Abortion with toxæmia..	13	0.02	1
	Other toxæmias of preg- nancy and the puer- perium	147	0.21	—
A117	Hæmorrhage of preg- nancy and childbirth ..	59	0.09	—
A118	Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ..	31	0.04	3
A119	Abortion with sepsis	47	0.07	5
A120	Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	138	0.20	—

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

Total Deaths

Causes of Death in the Aldridge U.D. (Year 1952).

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	110	113
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	1	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other Infective Parasitic Diseases	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	5	3
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	7
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	9	10
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	11	13
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	13	4
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	9	6
20. Other Heart Disease	20	32
21. Other Circulatory Disease	3	3
22. Influenza	—	—
23. Pneumonia	2	7
24. Bronchitis	5	2
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	—	2
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ..	7	11
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	—
34. All Other Accidents	7	4
35. Suicide	1	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age :—	Male.	Female.
Total	5	8
Legitimate	5	8
Illegitimate	—	—
Live Births:—		
Total	204	184
Legitimate	191	181
Illegitimate	5	3
Still Births :—		
Total	3	6
Legitimate	3	6
Illegitimate	—	—
POPULATION (Estimated—June, 1952)	29,360	

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1952

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ALDRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Twenty-Sixth Annual Report for the year 1952.

I would respectfully express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their constant support, and to the Medical Officer of Health, Clerk of the Council, and Surveyor, for the help and co-operation received from them.

WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the district is within the statutory area of the South Staffordshire Water Works Company, and the supply of water has been maintained in a satisfactory state of quality and quantity throughout the year.

A few cases exist where the only water supply obtainable is from wells.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The closet accommodation throughout the district is of the water carriage system, with water closets provided for each individual house.

There still remains, however, some pail closets and privies in such areas where sewers are not available.

Number of privies remaining in the district ... 18

Number of pails remaining in the district 73

One pail closet has been eliminated.

The following details are supplied by the courtesy of Mr. C. E. Andreasen, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

NIL.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

NIL.

NUMBER OF HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(a)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	152
(b)	By Other Authority	...	...	...	...	78
(c)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	35

Number of Houses in Course of Erection at the end of the Year.

(a)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	242
(b)	By Other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	229
(c)	By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	53	} 83
(d)	Self-Built Houses	...	...	...	30	

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION WORK

(April 1st, 1952, to March 31st, 1953)

Rats and Mice destruction work has been carried out throughout the year in close co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Division.

One man is employed part-time as rat operative. The time spent on rat work has been (during the year), equivalent to 20% of the full working time of one man.

The rat operative is employed part-time on other services.

PREMISES INSPECTED.

(To Confirm Infestation or Otherwise)

	Totals Inspected.	Found Infested	Found Non-Infested.
Dwelling Houses	103	26	77
Business Premises	22	19	3
Council's Premises	6	5	1
	<u>131</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>81</u>

VISITS TO CARRY OUT TREATMENT OF INFESTED PREMISES.

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	298
Business Premises	...	...	...	244
Council Premises (Tests) Sewers	...	...	...	124
Council Premises	...	...	...	56
				<u>722</u>

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Contact with the brick industry is being maintained. As new industries arise in the district, it is suggested that in any approvals given, care should be exercised to avoid smoke producing plants or the production of offensive gases, so as to prevent atmospheric pollution.

REPORT ON THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

(1st April, 1952, to 31st March, 1953)

I have the honour to submit herewith my Report on the work of collection and disposal of house refuse and the salvage operations for the year 1952-1953, in respect of the whole of the district.

Staff.

The number of men to be employed as shown on estimate for the year 1952-1953 was 25.

The possible hours of men actually employed was a total equivalent of 22.06 men on the year, whereas the actual attendance at work of men employed shows only an average equivalent of 19.74 men at work each week, throughout the year.

It will, therefore, be seen that there has been throughout the year a deficiency of staff actually at work, equivalent to 2.32 men each week.

Further, a deficiency of men actually employed, as against estimate of 25 men, shows an under-staffing of 2.94 men.

It is still found that younger men are more readily attracted to other occupations, and the consequence is that repeated changes of staff have occurred, and the age of the staff available is often higher than is desirable in newcomers.

Absenteeism.

Absenteeism has occurred with loss of possible working hours to the following extent:—

Working hours lost by absenteeism:—

One man hours lost by workers certified sick ...	3233.5	or	6.43%	of possible working hours.
One man hours lost through causes other than certified sickness	1631.25	or	3.21%	„
Total one man hours lost	4864.75	or	9.64%	„

Bonus.

The amount of bonus paid to men employed in the house refuse and salvage collection services, is as follows :—

Incentive Bonus	209	17	10
Salvage Bonus	21	4	6
	<hr/>		
Total Bonuses	£231	2	4
	<hr/>		

Sick Benefit.

The amount of wages paid as sick benefit to the staff whilst absent from work for reasons of certified sickness has shown a net cost to the Council of £288 17s. 2d.

Vehicles Employed.

- One 8.9 cubic yard S. and D. Freighter dust cart.
- One 10.5 cubic yard S. and D. Freighter dust cart.
- One 13 cubic yard S. and D. Freighter dust cart.
- One 13 cubic yard S. and D. Freighter dust cart.
- One Morris Commercial Lorry used on salvage work.

Disposal of Refuse.

Tipping has been carried out at Boat Dock and Radleys, Winterley Lane, Rushall.

Progress of Work.

The average period of collection throughout the year has been :—

Rushall and Pelsall	10.7	Days
Aldridge and Streetly	11.06	„
Great Barr and Pheasey	11.4	„
	<hr/>	
Giving an average for all districts of ...	11.05	„
	<hr/>	

Vehicle Working Days Lost.

The following working days were lost by the respective vehicles, as shown :—

S. and D. Freighter No. 2	11.6
No. 3	10.5
No. 4	1.2
No. 5	3.5
Morris	7
	<hr/>
Total Days Lost	33.8
	<hr/>

Costings.

The costings of house refuse collection and that of salvage have been separated, which will show the respective costings and the revenue from salvage operations.

Costings are summarised below and the revenue from salvage is also shown below :—

Total Costs Summarised.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cost of Refuse collection and disposal	8457	2	6			
Cost of Salvage Collection only ...	2315	8	1			
				10772	10	7
Miscellaneous Public Health				16	12	7
Total Cost of all above services	£10,789	3	2			

Salvage Cost and Revenue.

	£	s.	d.
Gross Costs	2315	8	1
Total Revenue ex-Sales	1615	16	0
Deficiency on Year	£699	12	1

Total Periodical Collections Made During the Year, and Estimated Tonnage.

District.	Collections.	Estimated Tonnage.
Rushall and Pelsall	89,595	2,789
Aldridge and Streetly	88,049	2,791
Great Barr and Pheasey	87,501	3,128.25
Total	265,145	8,708.25

From the Statement below, costings of running each individual vehicle will be seen :—

Vehicle Costings.

Vehicle.	Miles.	Hours worked.	Cost per hour.	Miles per gallon.	Total Expenditure.
S. & D. No. 2 ..	4,257	2,674	2/5.5d.	4.13	£328 15 6
S & D. No. 3 ..	4,280	2,698	3/3.3d.	3.79	£446 0 4
S. & D. No. 4 ..	9,484	2,778	3/4.3d.	6.55	£466 11 7
S. & D. No. 5 ..	5,616	2,770	2/3.5d.	4.75	£317 5 7
Morris Lorry ..	7,222	2,640	2/11.3d.	8.14	£389 0 11
TOTAL	30,859	13,560	—	—	£1,947 13 11

Refuse Collection and Disposal Costings.

In presenting the following extracts, refuse collection and disposal costings are based upon the figure £8,457 2s. 6d.

	YEAR 1952—1953.			
	Year 1951-52.	Collection.		Total.
	Total Costs.	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
Area "in acres"	9,284.			9,284
Population	29,167			29,360
Weight of refuse collected per 1,000 population per day	15.14 cwts.			16.25 cwts.
Net cost of collection and disposal of refuse only, per annum	£7,779 15s. 0d.	£7,646	5s. 6d.	£810 17s. 0d. £8,457 2s. 6d.
Expenditure per 1,000 population per annum — collection and disposal of refuse only ..	£266 14s. 7.4d.	£260	8s. 7.6d.	£27 12s. 4.3d. £288 0s. 11.9d.
Cost, collection and disposal per occupied house per annum ..	19s. 7.6d.	17s.	6.9d.	1s. 10.3d. 19s. 5.2d.
Cost per ton per annum—collection and disposal	19s. 3.6d.	17s.	6.73d.	1s. 10.35d. 19s. 5.08d.
Rate in the Pound, collection and disposal	1s. 2.65d.	1s.	1.82d.	1.46d. 1s. 3.28d.
Cost per 1,000 premises cleansed per annum (based on 8,702 premises)	£982 1s. 3.8d.	£878 13s. 7.2d	£93 3s. 7.1d.	£971 17s. 2.3d.

Yearly Summary of Salvage Collected, Year Ending 31st March, 1953.

The Table below shows the quantities of various materials salvaged and sold during the year, together with the income resulting from the sales.

The previous year's sales amounted to £2,181 12s. 2d.

Materials.	Quantity.					Value.		
	T.	C.	Q.	L.		£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	125	8	0	22	....	924	2	2
Periodicals	4	3	3	0	....	51	5	11
<hr/>								
Total Paper	129	11	3	22	....	975	8	1
Scrap Iron	8	15	1	26	....	34	1	2
Galvanised Scrap	2	1	3	0	....	5	4	5
Aluminium		4	1	14	....	17	14	7
Copper			1	2½	....	1	16	10
Brass				26½	....	1	6	2
Ropes and String		3	2	6	....	1	4	10
Jars		2	doz	& 2	....		3	4
Textiles	4	5	0	0	....	127	10	0
Kitchen Waste	126	7	1	0	....	451	6	7
						<hr/>		
						£1,615	16	0

From the foregoing salvage cost and revenue table it will be observed that the cost of operation exceeded the revenue by the sum of £699 12s. 1d.

During the course of the year the market value of waste paper decreased considerably, until at the end of the financial year the price had varied from £13 a ton at the commencement to £4 at the end of the year.

During the year waste paper was collected from traders each week and from 2,000 householders once a month.

The loss incurred over the year was anticipated in my report made to the Health Committee for the six months ending 30th September, 1952.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Inspections made re Housing Defects—

Informal	388
Public Health Act	150
Housing Act	44
Inspections made re Demolition	61
Inspections made re Clearance	11
Number of Visits re—	
Overcrowding	4
Food Shops	10
Fish Friers	16
Cafe-Restaurant	25

School Meal Centre	2
Meat Preparation Room	2
Food Sampling	1
Milk Shops	11
Ice Cream Premises	55
Ice Cream Sampling	128
Milk Label Sample	1
Bakehouses	8
Slaughterhouses	2
Default (work by Council)	6
Rag Flock	1
Dairies	6
Factories	78
Factory Canteens	5
Workshops	1
Outworkers	10
Drainage	201
Closet Accommodation	10
Cesspool	12
Dustbins	926
Refuse—House	39
Trade	—
Salvage	48
Vermin	15
Animals—Improperly Kept	6
Ditches	6
Water Supply	27
Water Samples	2
Sewage Effluent Samples	3
Accumulations	4
Tents, Vans, Sheds	79
Smoke Abatement	3
Meat Inspections	108
Unsound Foods	17
Food Poisoning	1
Housing Accommodation	20
Rats and Mice (by Sanitary Inspectors)	52
Miscellaneous	204
Aged Persons	10
Infectious Disease—	
Inquiries	81
Disinfection—Premises	6
Clothing	1
Bacteriological Specimens	8
Dysentery Sample	3
VISITS—Total	2,918

DUST BIN SCHEME.

Public Health Act 1936, Sec. 75 (3). Local Authorities
(Charges for Dust Bins) Order, 1949.

During the year dust bins were supplied under the
above provisions, as follows :—

Dust Bins supplied 264

NOTICES DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR.

	Notices Served.	Notices Completed.	Other Notices Superseded or Rescinded.
Informal	893	833	42
Statutory	64	51	2
Totals	<u>957</u>	<u>884</u>	<u>44</u>

FACORIES ACT.

Number of Factories on Register	
(including Bakehouses, 6)	76
Number of Visits made—Factories	78
Bakehouses	8
Outworkers' Premises	10
	<u>172</u>

Sanitary Accommodation in Factories—Dealt With.

Found insufficient	Nil
Found defective	2
Not separate for sexes	Nil
Want of cleanliness	6
	<u>8</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Primary visits and inquiries	81
Disinfection of infected premises	6
	<u>87</u>

COMPLAINTS.

Complaints received from the Public at the Health Department and dealt with, including all manner of subjects, drainage, house defects, nuisances ...	786
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NATURE AND NUMBER OF STRUCTURAL DEFECTS DEALT WITH IN HOUSES : TOGETHER WITH NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS.

House Defects :

House Roofs	24
Ceilings, plaster	16
Walls, plaster	35
Walls, brickwork and pointing	17
Floors, boards	17
Floors, skirting boards	2
Floors, joists	6
Floor paving (interior)	4
Windows, sash cords	3
Windows, frames	8
Doors, frames	6
Doors, fastenings	1
Doors	3
Firegrates	4
Firegrate brickwork	2
Ovens	2
Sinks	2
Chimney brickwork	5
Chimney pointing	4
Chimney pots	4
Washboilers	6
General dampness	2
Hot-Water Cisterns	1
Sub-Floor Ventilation	13

Water :

Water service pipe	1
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Closet Accommodation Defects :

Water Closet—Structure	2
Cisterns	11
Pedestals	8
Seats	2
Absence of flushing apparatus	3
Joints	3
Floors	1
Privies Eliminated.	
Pail Closets Eliminated	1

Drainage Inspections	4
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Drainage Defects :

Gully fenders	1
Drains, defective	2
Drains, choked	48

Inspection chambers defective	4
Vent pipes	1
Soil Pipes	3
Gullies	3
Cesspools, defective	3
Eavesgutters	17
Rainwater downspouts	8
Sink waste pipe	9
Bath waste pipe	1

Miscellaneous Matters :

Factory—Limewashing and Cleansing	3
Factory—Insufficient closets	1
Factory—Closets defective	6
Factory—Closet labelling	2
Factory—Intervening ventilated space	1
Factory—Closet screening	1
Workplaces—Cleansing and decoration	1
Tents, vans and sheds	4

FOOD PREMISES.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF :

Inspections made :

Dairies and Milk Shops	17
Bakehouses	8
Food Shops	10
Ice Cream Shops	55
Re Unsound Food	17

Visits made for Supervision of Food Premises	107
--	-----

Ice Cream and Preserved Foods.

The following premises are registered under the provision of Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—

For the Sale of Ice Cream	67
For the Manufacture of Ice Cream	8
For the Manufacture of Preserved Foods (including Fish Frying)	16
	<hr/> 91

Unsatisfactory Conditions in the foregoing registered premises have been dealt with.

Repairs to :—

Floors	2
Wall plastering	2
Ceiling plastering	2
Windows—defective	1

Paintwork	2
Unsatisfactory state of cleanliness	6
Light	1
Ventilation	1
Provision of :—	
Water supply—Cold	1
Hot	1
Towels and soap	1
Drainage	2
Fittings	2
Utensils—lack of cleanliness	3
Preparation rooms, defects	2

ICE CREAM SAMPLING.

The following samples were procured during the year, and were graded according to the methylene blue test, as follows :—

Grade 1	60
Grade 2	40
Grade 3	12
Grade 4	11
	<hr/>
Total	123
	<hr/>

UN SOUND FOODS.

The following foods were inspected and found unfit for human consumption :—

	Tins.		Lbs.	Ozs.
9 Pairs Pigs' Lungs .....	—	.....	—	—
6 Pig Carcases .....	—	.....	622	0
5 Pigs' Livers .....	—	.....	—	—
1 Pig Spleen .....	—	.....	—	—
Hake .....	—	.....	70	0
Apples	9	.....	51	12
Frozen Egg	1	.....	40	0
Cherries	3	.....	2	11½
Peaches .....	—	.....	5	11
Sheeps' Livers and Portions	—	.....	11	12
One Bovine Liver .....	—	.....	11	8
17 Lambs' Heads .....	—	.....	17	0
Ribs of Beef .....	—	.....	31	0
Stewed Steak	16	.....	64	0
Ham and Veal Loaf	1	.....	4	0
Cheese .....	—	.....	2	12
	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	30	.....	934	2½
	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>

DETAILS OF SAMPLES TAKEN IN ALDRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, DURING 1952.

The following record of samples of milk and other foods, taken in the district, has been supplied by the courtesy of Dr. G. Ramage, County Medical Officer of Health, Staffordshire County Council.

	Number.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	17	16	1
Pasteurised	17	17	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised..	11	11	—
Tuberculin Tested	1	—	1
Channel Isles	1	1	—
Channel Isles Tuberculin Tested	2	2	—
Channel Isles Pasteurised	3	3	—
Channel Isles Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested	1	1	—
Sterilised	33	29	4
Yoghourt	1	1	—
Sausage—Beef	4	4	—
Pork	1	1	—
Ice Cream	5	5	—
Ice Cream Powder	1	1	—
Butter	1	1	—
Margarine	1	1	—
Flour—Plain	1	1	—
Suet—Beef	1	—	—
Cocoa	1	1	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	1	—
Epsom Salts	1	1	—
Tomatoes (Tinned)	1	1	—
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	1	—
Strawberries (Tinned)	1	1	—
Castor Oil	1	1	—
Backache Pills	1	1	—
Aspirin	1	1	—
Jelly Crystals	1	1	—
Sunny Spread	1	1	—
Pickled Onions	1	1	—
Olive Oil	1	1	—
Condensed Milk	1	1	—
Tapioca	1	1	—
Tea	1	1	—
Bloater Paste	1	1	—
Cooking Crumbs	1	1	—
Rice	1	1	—
Whisky	3	3	—
	<u>124</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>6</u>

The samples of Milk and Tuberculin Tested Milk, which were adulterated, were slightly deficient in fat, and the Sterilised Milk, adulterated, contained small quantities of added water. Cautions were issued.

MILK SAMPLES COLLECTED IN ALDRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION DURING 1952.

	No. of Samples Sub- mitted	Cleanliness Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Pass Phosphatase	Fail Phosphatase	Turbidity Pass	Fail	Con- taining Tubercle Bacilli	Biological Pass	Fail	Bacterio- logical Pass	Fail
Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	72	67	5	72	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	8	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Channel Island)	9	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Pasteurised	94	71	4	75	—	—	—	—	19	—	—	—
Pasteurised (Channel Island)	18	18	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sterilised	60	—	—	—	—	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undesignated	12	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	—
Total	275	171	13	164	—	60	—	1	28	1	1	1

HOUSING.

1. *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—*

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts)	760
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	1862
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	71
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	103
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human inhabitation	749
(5)		Houses on which undertakings were given and completed	Nil
		Houses on which undertakings were given and have not been completed	Nil

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice :—*

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	51
---	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—*

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By Owners	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—
- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 56 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By Owners | 47 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 11 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 10 |
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.*

- | | |
|---|----|
| (a) (1) Number of dwellings recorded overcrowded at the end of the year | 3 |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein | 6 |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein | 45 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 1 |
| (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 2 |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 18 |

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

U. BOOCOCK,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

